NEWS

DEPARTMENT OF LABORBUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

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SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL OFFICE 61 FORSYTH STREET, SW, ROOM 7T50 ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303 TELEPHONE: (404) 331-3415

Media Contact: Michael Wald

(404) 331-3446

Internet address: http://www.bls.gov/ro4/home.htm Fax on demand: (404) 331-3403. Request document 9470

HIGHLIGHTS OF HUNTSVILLE, AL NATIONAL COMPENSATION SURVEY JUNE 2002

Workers in the Huntsville metropolitan area averaged \$19.41 per hour during June 2002, according to a new survey released by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Regional Commissioner Janet S. Rankin reported that white-collar workers averaged \$23.05 per hour and accounted for 54 percent of the workers in the area. Blue-collar employees averaged \$17.05 per hour and represented 34 percent of the workforce, while the remainder worked in service occupations and earned \$8.41 per hour. (See table 1.)

The National Compensation Survey (NCS) presents straight-time earnings for occupations in establishments employing 50 or more workers in private industry and State and local governments. The survey excludes agricultural establishments, private households, the self-employed, and the Federal Government. This NCS covered 194 firms representing 74,100 workers in the Huntsville metropolitan area, which includes Limestone and Madison Counties in Alabama. Seventy-seven percent of those represented worked in private industry.

In the Huntsville metropolitan area, average hourly wages were published for over 50 detailed occupations. (See table 1.) Among white-collar workers, aerospace engineers averaged \$34.07 per hour; licensed practical nurses, \$12.66; and general office clerks, \$10.17. Blue-collar occupations included industrial machinery repairers earning \$23.32 per hour, assemblers at \$19.42, and machine feeders and offbearers at \$10.09. In the service occupations, cooks averaged \$9.34 per hour; nursing aides, orderlies and attendants, \$8.34; and maids and housemen, \$6.52.

The NCS also provides broad coverage of selected occupational characteristics. (See tables 2 and 3.) For example, full-time employees in the Huntsville area averaged \$20.12 per hour and part-timers earned \$8.49. Union workers in blue-collar jobs averaged \$21.74 per hour, while their nonunion counterparts made \$12.64. Private industry workers at establishments employing 50-99 workers averaged \$13.54 per hour, while those in establishments with 500 or more employees earned \$24.81.

The NCS is part of a statistical program that will eventually integrate three separate surveys of wages and benefits into one comprehensive compensation program increasing the amount of data available. Data provided by the NCS may be used by businesses for establishing pay plans, making decisions concerning plant relocation, and in collective bargaining negotiations. Individuals may use such data to help choose potential careers. Average rates of pay are also available for levels of work within an

occupation based on knowledge, skill, independent judgement, supervision received, and other factors required on the job.

Survey Availability

Complete survey results are contained in the <u>Huntsville</u>, <u>AL National Compensation Survey June 2002</u> (Bulletin 3115-56). While supplies last, single copies of the bulletin are available from the Atlanta Information Office by calling 404-331-3415. In addition, data contained in the bulletin are available on the Internet in both text and PDF formats at http://www.bls.gov/ncs/home.htm. Select survey tables can also be obtained from the Bureau's fax-on-demand service in Atlanta by dialing 404-331-3403 and requesting document 9470.

For personal assistance or further information on the National Compensation Survey, as well as other Bureau programs, contact the Atlanta Information Office at 404-331-3415 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. ET.

Table 1. Mean hourly earnings, 1 all workers: 2 Selected occupations, private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Huntsville, AL, June 2002

Occupation ³	Total		Private industry		State and local government	
	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)
All	\$19.41	2.7	\$19.52	3.1	\$18.98	6.0
All excluding sales	20.01	2.8	20.26	3.3	19.11	6.0
White collar	23.05	3.1	23.42	3.6	21.97	7.6
White collar excluding sales	24.82	2.4	25.83	2.3	22.26	7.7
Professional specialty and technical	27.62	4.2	29.37	3.5	23.90	10.4
Professional specialty	29.90	5.2	32.22	2.3	25.33	11.5
Engineers, architects, and surveyors	33.54	4.6	33.86	4.5	_	_
Aerospace engineers	34.07	6.0	34.07	6.0	_	_
Electrical and electronic engineers	32.67	3.6	33.21	2.8	_	_
Industrial engineers	32.30	6.7	32.30	6.7	_	_
Engineers, n.e.c.	33.58	4.4	33.58	4.4	_	_
Mathematical and computer scientists	33.17	5.4	33.25	5.5	_	_
Computer systems analysts and scientists	33.07	5.1	33.15	5.2	_	_
Natural scientists	_	_	_	_	_	_
Health related	30.94	10.3	22.94	7.6	_	_
Registered nurses	28.24	12.3	_	_	_	_
Teachers, college and university	_	_	_	_	_	_
Teachers, except college and university	24.81	3.3	15.79	23.0	_	_
Librarians, archivists, and curators	_	_	_	_	_	_
Social, recreation, and religious workers	_	-	-	-	_	_
professionals, n.e.c.	15.11	22.5	21.26	9.5	_	_
Technical	19.06	2.8	19.78	2.9	17.04	2.0
Licensed practical nurses	12.66	3.9	12.40	5.3	-	
Electrical and electronic technicians	18.18	17.0	17.98	20.2	_	_
Engineering technicians, n.e.c.	23.13	4.7	23.13	4.7	_	_
Drafters	20.93	7.4	20.93	7.4	_	_
Computer programmers	21.97	16.9	-	-	-	-
Executive, administrative, and managerial	33.20	2.6	33.72	2.9	31.28	6.8
Executives, administrators, and managers	37.65	3.3	40.09	4.0	32.34	6.6
Administrators, education and related fields	37.72	3.8	_	_	_	_
Managers and administrators, n.e.c	41.55	4.1	41.55	4.2	_	_
Management related	26.59	3.0	26.79	3.2	_	_
Accountants and auditors	28.57	11.8	30.17	13.8	_	_
Management related, n.e.c	21.50	9.1	21.50	9.1	_	_
Sales	12.11	7.2	12.12	7.5	-	_
Supervisors, sales	15.20	10.5	15.20	10.5	_	_
Sales workers, apparel	9.56	2.5	9.56	2.5	_	_
Sales workers, other commodities Cashiers	11.94 7.91	6.0 7.5	11.41 7.69	5.6 7.8		_
					40.04	
Administrative support, including clerical Secretaries	12.75 15.36	5.1 11.0	12.89 16.15	6.5 16.4	12.34 –	6.0
Receptionists	9.56	10.3	9.56	10.3	_	_
Order clerks	13.36	6.3	13.36	6.3	_	_
Bookkeepers, accounting and auditing clerks	13.71	6.7	13.45	11.7	_	_
Production coordinators	18.04	16.4	-	-	_	_
Traffic, shipping and receiving clerks	13.08	5.2	13.08	5.2	_	_
Stock and inventory clerks	12.29	12.6	12.29	12.6	-	_
Material recording, scheduling, and distribution clerks, n.e.c.	8.79	9.2	8.79	9.2	_	_
General office clerks	10.17	3.7	10.39	5.8	_	-
Administrative support, n.e.c.	16.63	23.5	16.63	23.5	_	_
Blue collar	17.05	3.5	17.13	3.7	16.19	8.4
Precision production, craft, and repair	18.82	3.7	18.78	4.0	19.02	9.8
Industrial machinery repairers	23.32	1.1	23.32	1.1	_	_
Machinery maintenance	15.08	9.4	15.08	9.4	_	_
Mechanics and repairers, n.e.c	16.38	11.1	_	_	_	-
Supervisors, production	20.29	4.0	19.07	1.7	_	-
Electrical and electronic equipment assemblers	8.13	2.6	8.13	2.6	_	1

Table 1. Mean hourly earnings,1 all workers:2 Selected occupations, private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Huntsville, AL, June 2002 — Continued

Occupation ³	Total		Private industry		State and local government	
	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)
Blue collar –Continued						
Bide Collai -Continued						
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	\$18.08	4.1	\$18.08	4.1	_	_
Punching and stamping press operators	12.23	4.8	12.23	4.8	_	_
Fabricating machine operators, n.e.c	11.42	5.8	11.42	5.8	_	_
Molding and casting machine operators	13.39	3.5	13.39	3.5	_	_
Packaging and filling machine operators	9.02	5.0	9.02	5.0	_	_
Mixing and blending machine operators	16.42	5.9	16.42	5.9	-	_
Miscellaneous machine operators, n.e.c	19.87	7.2	19.87	7.2	-	_
Assemblers	19.42	1.8	19.42	1.8	_	_
Production inspectors, checkers and examiners	17.13	7.3	17.13	7.3	_	_
Transportation and material moving	13.33	6.4	13.14	8.5	\$13.90	5.2
Truck drivers	13.96	8.4	14.04	11.7	_	_
Industrial truck and tractor equipment operators	11.60	7.0	11.60	7.0	-	-
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	10.26	3.9	10.04	4.6	_	_
Stock handlers and baggers	9.07	9.9	9.07	9.9	_	_
Machine feeders and offbearers	10.09	4.6	10.09	4.6	_	_
Freight, stock, and material handlers, n.e.c	10.29	12.5	10.29	12.5	_	_
Hand packers and packagers	8.90	12.6	8.90	12.6	_	_
Laborers, except construction, n.e.c	10.01	6.3	10.01	6.3	_	_
Service	8.41	8.3	6.83	8.4	10.88	10.0
Protective service	12.08	10.5	_	_	13.69	7.8
Food service	7.30	19.2	5.15	12.5	9.79	2.0
Waiters, waitresses, and bartenders	2.90	9.8	2.85	8.0	_	
Waiters and waitresses	2.50	12.2	2.43	9.3	_	-
Other food service	9.51	3.8	8.81	9.1	_	_
Cooks	9.34	5.3	9.12	8.1	_	_
Health service	8.40	5.0	8.06	5.5	_	-
Nursing aides, orderlies and attendants	8.34	5.2	7.95	5.5	_	-
Cleaning and building service	6.95	8.0	6.72	7.4	_	-
Maids and housemen	6.52	2.1	6.43	2.4	_	-
Janitors and cleaners	6.87	8.1	6.60	6.6	_	-
Personal service	7.30	10.7	_	_	_	_

¹ Earnings are the straight-time hourly wages or salaries paid to employees. They include incentive pay, cost-of-living adjustments, and hazard pay. Excluded are premium pay for overtime, vacations, holidays, nonproduction bonuses, and tips. The mean is computed by totaling the pay of all workers and dividing by the

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported or that data did not meet publication criteria, and n.e.c. means "not elsewhere classified." Overall occupational groups may include data for categories not shown separately.

number of workers, weighted by hours.

All workers include full-time and part-time workers.

A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy.

⁴ The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error expressed as a percent of the estimate. It can be used to calculate a "confidence interval" around a sample estimate.

Table 2. Selected worker characteristics: Mean hourly earnings1 by occupational group,2 National Compensation Survey, Huntsville, AL, June 2002

Occupational group	Private industry and State and local government						
	Full-time workers ³	Part-time workers ³	Union ⁴	Nonunion ⁴	Time ⁵	Incentive ⁵	
	Mean						
All occupations		\$8.49 8.76	\$21.96 22.02	\$18.81 19.48	\$19.33 19.93	\$24.96 -	
White collar		10.14 14.06	24.80 25.91	22.99 24.78	22.94 24.63	28.87	
Professional specialty and technical Professional specialty Technical	29.84	22.40 - -	- - -	27.51 29.78 18.47	27.62 29.90 19.06	- - -	
Executive, administrative, and managerial	33.30 13.69	- 7.99 8.88	- - 19.21	33.29 11.97 12.42	32.26 11.11 12.75	19.42 -	
Blue collar Precision production, craft, and repair	17.22	7.80	21.74 23.29	12.64 16.07	17.07 18.83	_ _	
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors Transportation and material moving Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	18.10 13.33	- - 6.34	22.47 15.49 11.03	10.77 12.92 9.96	18.09 13.35 10.26	- - -	
Service		6.25	_	8.42	8.40	_	
	Relative error ⁶ (percent)						
All occupations		11.1 16.3	2.6 2.6	3.3 3.4	3.1 3.1	38.1 -	
White collar White-collar excluding sales		15.5 27.3	14.1 14.4	3.1 2.4	3.0 2.5	43.8	
Professional specialty and technical Professional specialty Technical Executive, administrative, and managerial	5.2 3.0	37.5 - -	- - -	4.2 5.2 3.7 2.5	4.2 5.2 2.8 4.3	- - -	
SalesAdministrative support, including clerical	8.2	5.6 5.9	_ _ 16.8	7.5 4.0	5.2 5.1	27.7 –	
Blue collar Precision production, craft, and repair Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors Transportation and material moving Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	3.6 4.1 6.5	14.5 - - - 5.7	2.1 3.9 .6 9.6 3.9	3.5 5.1 3.4 7.7 5.4	3.5 3.7 4.1 6.6 3.9	- - - -	
Service	9.5	5.7	_	8.4	8.4	_	

¹ Earnings are the straight-time hourly wages or salaries paid to employees. They include incentive pay, cost-of-living adjustments, and hazard pay. Excluded are premium pay for overtime, vacations, holidays, nonproduction bonuses, and tips. The mean is computed by totaling the pay of all workers and dividing by the number of workers, weighted by hours.
² A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy.

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported or that data did not meet publication criteria.

 $^{^3}$ Employees are classified as working either a full-time or a part-time schedule based on the definition used by each establishment. Therefore, a worker with a 35-hour-per-week schedule might be considered a full-time employee in one establishment, but classified as part-time in another firm, where a 40-hour week is the minimum full-time schedule.

⁴ Union workers are those whose wages are determined through

Onlon workers are those whose wages are determined through collective bargaining.

Time workers' wages are based solely on an hourly rate or salary; incentive workers are those whose wages are at least partially based on productivity payments such as piece rates, commissions, and production

bonuses. 6 The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error expressed as a percent of the estimate. It can be used to calculate a "confidence interval" around a sample estimate.

Table 3. Establishment employment size: Mean hourly earnings1 by occupational group,2 private industry, National Compensation Survey, Huntsville, AL, June 2002

	Full-time and part-time workers						
Occupational argum	All private		100	\$16.76 17.85 20.36 23.99 27.85 30.90 19.02 32.11 11.59 12.12 12.61 15.51 11.42 12.28 10.61 7.54	more		
Occupational group	All private industry workers	50 - 99 workers ³	Total		500 workers or more		
All occupations All excluding sales		\$13.54 13.94	\$20.73 21.56		\$24.81 24.73		
White collar	-	19.28	24.07		29.04		
White-collar excluding sales	25.83	21.53	26.52	23.99	28.97		
Professional specialty and technical Professional specialty Technical Executive, administrative, and managerial	32.22	27.02 31.69 11.80 31.34	29.61 32.27 20.60 34.18	30.90 19.02	31.31 33.51 22.57 35.49		
Sales Administrative support, including clerical	12.12 12.89	8.21 11.07	12.70 13.37		32.18 15.07		
Blue collar Precision production, craft, and repair Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors Transportation and material moving Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	18.78 18.08	10.93 13.32 9.42 13.25 9.12	18.40 19.64 19.09 13.02 10.65	15.51 11.42 12.28	21.91 23.06 22.10 – 10.77		
Service	6.83	5.76	7.42	7.54	-		
		Relat	ive error ⁴ (p	ercent)			
All occupations		13.7 13.8	3.6 3.1		2.5 2.2		
White collar		14.4 13.3	4.7 2.9		4.7 4.4		
Professional specialty and technical Professional specialty Technical Executive, administrative, and managerial Sales Administrative support, including clerical	2.3	19.3 21.7 10.2 16.9 11.2 11.9	2.6 1.1 4.1 3.0 9.2 7.6	5.7 3.5 5.5 12.3 5.6 4.3	1.7 1.8 1.7 6.4 11.3 15.0		
Blue collar Precision production, craft, and repair Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors Transportation and material moving Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	4.1 8.5	7.6 5.7 8.6 14.7 9.5	3.6 4.0 4.0 10.8 2.5	1.2 4.0 3.2 7.9 2.4	1.8 1.2 2.0 - 8.2		
Service	8.4	14.6	4.0	4.6	_		

¹ Earnings are the straight-time hourly wages or salaries paid to employees. They include incentive pay, cost-of-living adjustments, and hazard pay. Excluded are premium pay for overtime, vacations, holidays, nonproduction bonuses, and tips. The mean is computed by totaling the pay of all workers and dividing by the number of workers, weighted by hours.
2 A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy.

establishments with fewer than 50 due to staff reductions between

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported or that data did not meet publication criteria.

 $^{^{3}}$ Establishments classified with 50-99 workers may contain

survey sampling and collection.

4 The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error expressed as a percent of the estimate. It can be used to calculate a "confidence interval" around a sample estimate.